IMPORTANT NOTICE

BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS

<u>New License Requirement</u>

Effective June 17, 2003 and pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes section 436B-10 and federal law, it is the policy of the State of Hawaii ("State") Board of Veterinary Examiners ("Board") that, in addition to meeting the education, experience, and examination requirements for licensure, an applicant for a Hawaii veterinarian's license is required to be either <u>a United States citizen, a United States national, or an alien authorized to work in the United States</u>.

This means that, even if an applicant meets the education, experience, and examination requirements for licensure, that applicant shall <u>not</u> be issued a license if that applicant is not a U.S. citizen, a U.S. national, or an alien authorized to work in the U.S.

However, the Board will issue the applicant a <u>conditional approval</u> that signifies that the applicant has met the education, experience, and examination requirements for licensure; provided that this conditional approval shall <u>not</u> be considered a license to engage in the profession and shall <u>not</u> authorize the applicant to work in our State. To obtain authorization to work in our State, the applicant shall be required to contact the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services ("BCIS"). Once the applicant submits evidence to the Board that the BCIS has authorized the applicant to work in the U.S. (without conditions or other encumbrances) and has met all of the licensing requirements (including, but not limited to, the requirement that the applicant has not been convicted of any crime that is directly related to the profession), the applicant shall be issued a license.

This conditional approval shall be valid for two (2) years. An applicant must obtain the appropriate BCIS authorization within this two (2) year period in order to have a license issued. If the applicant is unable to meet this deadline, the applicant may be required to reapply for licensure and meet all of the requirements in effect at that time.

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